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WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1965

To which is appended the

REPORT

of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

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WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1965

Chairman	--	Mr. J. Cadamy
Members	--	Mrs. V.R. Chamberlain
	--	Mrs. M.O. French
	--	Mr. S. Abel
	--	Mr. J.H. Acock
	--	Mr. L. Cox
	--	Mr. R. Edmondson
	--	Mr. C.H. Platten
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Ex-officio	--	Mr. C.A. Ramm
	--	Mr. W.F. Thurgur

WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the year ended 31st December, 1965

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the Public Health of the District for 1965. As in previous years, the report of the Surveyor and Public Health Inspector is included.

Dr. A.A.G. Carson, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H. who was medical officer of Health during 1965 resigned with effect from March 6th, 1966, on accepting a post in another county.

The Registrar General's mid-year estimate of the population was 2,450. This is a similar figure to those obtained in 1964, 1963 and 1962. There were 32 live births and 37 deaths during 1965. Only three deaths occurred in persons below 54 years of age. There were no maternal deaths and no deaths in infants under one year of age. One stillbirth was reported.

No deaths from tuberculosis were registered, and no person was notified as suffering from poliomyelitis.

I should like to express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the committee for their support, and to the Staffs of the Local Authority and Public Health Department and the Local Health Office for their help in the compilation of this report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,



LESLIE G. POOLE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.
Medical Officer of Health

SECTION I

GENERAL STATISTICS

- (a) Area:- The Urban District covers 2,570 acres.
- (b) Population:- The estimated Mid-Year Home Population for the District for 1965 was 2,450. This was the same as in 1964.

Year	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Estimated Mid-Year Population	2590	2600	2700	2730	2720	2470	2450	2450	2450	2450

The total number of deaths was 37; the number of live births 32, showing a natural decrease of births over deaths of 5.

- (c) The Rateable Value of the District was £78,506.
- (d) The Product of Penny Rate was £311.
- (e) Meteorological Factors:- the data, acquired by courtesy of the R.A.F. West Raynham, is shown in the table below, the figures in brackets being the corresponding data for 1964.

Month	Mean daily maximum Temp (°F)	Mean daily minimum Temp (°F)	Mean daily temperature (°F)	Total rain-fall inches	Mean relative humidity
Jan.	40.8 (38.8)	33.1 (30.6)	36.9 (34.7)	2.93 (.67)	88.75 (93.75)
Feb.	40.5 (43.9)	34.0 (34.7)	37.3 (39.3)	1.12 (.75)	86.25 (89.75)
Mar.	46.9 (41.7)	33.4 (34.2)	40.1 (37.9)	2.47 (2.81)	84.75 (86.0)
Apr.	52.7 (53.8)	36.7 (40.8)	45.7 (47.3)	2.51 (2.55)	85.0 (81.0)
May	59.7 (64.2)	45.3 (45.9)	52.5 (55.1)	1.38 (1.57)	81.0 (77.50)
June	64.4 (63.7)	48.4 (49.3)	56.4 (56.5)	2.37 (4.50)	83.0 (82.25)
July	62.8 (69.6)	50.0 (52.5)	56.4 (61.1)	4.09 (1.39)	84.75 (78.25)
Aug.	66.4 (63.9)	50.4 (52.2)	58.4 (60.5)	2.96 (1.16)	83.0 (79.25)
Sept.	61.5 (66.7)	47.5 (47.3)	54.5 (57.0)	4.26 (.53)	87.50 (76.25)
Oct.	58.3 (53.6)	44.2 (40.1)	51.3 (46.9)	.81 (2.22)	88.0 (86.75)
Nov.	44.2 (49.5)	35.2 (39.2)	39.7 (44.3)	3.42 (1.95)	87.75 (89.0)
Dec.	42.4 (41.5)	34.0 (33.4)	38.2 (37.5)	6.05 (2.16)	92.50 (88.75)

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The Registrar General's figure for live births and stillbirths in the District for 1965 was 32 and 1 respectively.

Table showing legitimate and illegitimate live births
(the figures in brackets are corresponding numbers for 1964)

Live Births	Males	Females	Totals
Legitimate	16 (14)	14 (11)	30 (25)
Illegitimate	2 (3)	2 (1)	2 (4)
Totals	18 (17)	16 (12)	32 (29)

Live Birth Rate

The crude rate was 13.06 per 1,000 of the estimated population compared with a rate of 11.8 in 1964; 13.3 in 1963; 13.06 in 1962 and 14.2 in 1961. The corrected birth rate (using a comparability factor of 1.14) was 14.9 per 1,000 of the population compared with a rate of 18.1 for England and Wales and 17.26 for the Administrative County of Norfolk.

Illegitimate Births

The number of illegitimate births was 2. The illegitimate live birth rate is the percentage of total live births, and for 1965 was 6.25% compared with a rate of 13.8% in 1964; 2.5% in 1963; 6.25% in 1962 and 5.7% in 1961.

Still Births

There was one stillbirth in 1965, giving a stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths of 30.3. The rate for England and Wales was 15.7 for 1965 and for the Administrative County of Norfolk the rate was 12.84.

Infant Deaths

No infants under one year of age died in 1965, as in 1964, and compared with 2 in 1963. Thus all the infant mortality rates were zero.

Maternal Mortality Rate

No maternal deaths occurred in 1965, therefore the maternal mortality rate was zero.

Deaths from all causes

The Registrar General has recorded the following deaths and they are classified under the thirty-six headings based on the abbreviated list of International Statistical Classifications of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Deaths, 1955. Where headings are omitted from the table, there were no deaths due to these causes.

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All Ages	Age in Years				
			1-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	1	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	M	1	-	-	-	1	-
	F	2	-	1	-	-	1
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	3
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	1	-	-	-	-	1
	F	4	-	-	1	1	2
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	2	-	-	2	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	1	1
20. Other Heart Disease	M	5	-	1	-	2	2
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1
23. Pneumonia	M	3	-	-	-	2	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	2
24. Bronchitis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	1	-	-
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	1	1
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	1	-	-	1	-
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	1	-	-	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1
32. Other Defined and Ill- Defined Diseases	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	1	1
34. All Other Accidents	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1
Total All Causes	M	14	-	1	3	6	4
	F	23	1	1	2	5	14

Deaths from all causes -- Cont'd

There were 37 deaths in all in the District in 1965 - 14 male and 23 female. It is interesting to record that only three deaths occurred below the age of 54 years.

Heart disease, with 10 deaths, was the largest group and caused 27.0% of all deaths. Coronary artery disease, with 4 deaths, caused 10.8% of all deaths.

Vascular lesions of the nervous system caused 5 deaths, or 13.5% of all deaths.

If all deaths due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system, including vascular lesions of the nervous system, are combined a figure of 15 deaths is arrived at, thus 40.5% of all deaths was from these causes.

Cancer caused 7 deaths or 18.9% of all deaths. Three of these deaths were due to cancer of lung and bronchus; in other words 42.9% of all cancer deaths was due to cancer of the lung and bronchus.

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	-	15.1
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population (using comparability factor of 0.84)	-	12.7
Corrected Death Rate for the Administrative County of Norfolk per 1,000 estimated population	-	10.39
Death Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 estimated population	-	11.5

The value of the Corrected Death Rate is that comparisons can be made between different areas of the country.

SECTION II

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Seven cases of Measles were reported during the year.

Tuberculosis

No new cases were reported.

If reference is made to the table showing the causes of death, it will be seen that none were due to tuberculosis, showing that this once dreaded disease is being controlled.

The following table shows the number of cases on the Register in Wells at the end of 1965:-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
New cases						
Inward) transfers)		NIL		NIL		NIL
No. on Register at 31/12/65	2 (2)	2 (3)	-- (-)	1 (1)	2 (2)	3 (4)
		4 (5)		1 (1)		5 (6)

(The figures in brackets show the corresponding numbers for 1964)

B.C.G. Vaccinations

B.C.G. vaccination is offered by the County Council to all children on attaining the age of 13 years. Out of the 75 children offered vaccination, 66 accepted, giving an acceptance rate of 88.8%.

The following table shows the figures of the Alderman Peel School in 1965, (the figures in brackets show the corresponding numbers for 1964).

Number due	Number accepted	Tested	Read	Posi- tive	Neg. & vaccinated	Tuberculin Index
75 (133)	66 (107)	65 (104)	65 (104)	2 (11)	63 (91)	3.1% (10.6%)

The tuberculin index does not necessarily indicate tuberculous disease, as the resistance of the great majority of pupils is sufficient to overcome the invading organism; it does, however, indicate the degree of opportunity for invasion, and is thus a useful index of infectious cases in a community.

Poliomyelitis

There were no cases of poliomyelitis in the District in 1965. Immunisation is offered by the County Council.

The following table shows the number of persons immunised against poliomyelitis during 1965 in Area 8 (which comprises Walsingham and Docking Rural Districts and Hunstanton and Wells Urban Districts) and in Wells U.D.

Age Groups	Area 8	Wells U.D.
Children born in 1965	107	7
Children born in 1964	399	31
Children born in 1963	69	..
Children born in 1962	40	2
Children and Young Persons born 1945-61	98	2
Young Persons born in 1935-44	24	1
Adults born 1934 or before	9	..
Re-inforcing doses (all ages)	434	52
Total	1180	102

Smallpox

There were no cases of smallpox in the District in 1965.

The following table shows the number of vaccinations, by age groups, carried out in Area 8 and Wells Urban District in 1965.

Age at date of Vaccination	Area 8		Wells U.D.	
	Primary	Re-Vacc.	Primary	Re-Vacc.
0 - 3 months	2	..	..	..
3 - 6 "	9	..	..	..
6 - 9 "	12	..	..	..
9 - 12 "	63	..	1	..
1 year	235	..	23	..
2 - 4 years	52	7	4	..
5 - 14 "	18	21	..	..
Total	391	28	28	..

Diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus

There were no cases under this heading notified in the District.

The following table gives more information about immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus in Area 8 (Area 8 comprises Walsingham and Docking Rural Districts and Hunstanton and Wells Urban Districts) and in Wells U.D. in 1965.

		Area 8	Wells U.D.
Triple	Initial	601	25
	Booster	253	26
Diphtheria/ Tetanus	Initial	25	1
	Booster	691	13
Diphtheria	Initial	..	..
	Booster	74	7
Tetanus	Initial	84	10
	Booster	63	2

SECTION III.

REPORT

OF THE

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

INSPECTIONS

The following inspections were carried out during the year :

Housing	..	..	..	..	..	117
Housing Repairs and Byelaws	..	..	..	..	..	78
Slaughter Houses	..	..	..	..	..	258
Shops	..	..	..	..	..	27
Pest Acts	..	..	..	..	..	387
Factories and Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	6
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	198

HOUSING

Slum Clearance

No appreciable progress has been made in dealing with Stage II of the Freeman Street Clearance Area during the year under review.

Individual Unfit Houses

The following table shows action taken under Section 14 et. seq. of the Housing Act, 1957.

Representations Received	..	..	..	3
Representations Outstanding at 1.1.65.	..	..	..	5
Closing Orders Made	..	..	..	2
Demolition Orders Made	..	..	..	1
Undertakings Accepted	..	..	..	1
Remaining to be determined	..	..	..	4

Council House Building

No Council houses were constructed during the year and no plans were prepared for any houses.

Improvements to Existing Council Houses

During the year improvements were completed in 32 Pre-War Houses in Northfield Crescent. This completes the Pre-War Housing Improvement Programme in which 152 Houses have been provided with five standard amenities of running hot and cold water to bath, wash basin and kitchen sink, bath in a separate room and watercloset accessible from within the dwelling, and a ventilated food store.

As well as the provision of these amenities considerable alterations to the dwellings have been carried out, electrical installations up to modern standards installed, and extensive repairs, including where necessary, the renewal of roofs. The total programme was carried out in four stages at a cost of £84,637.0.0d. and has been carried out in four years, 1961 - 65.

The Council house property now available comprises the following accommodation:

One-Bedroom Type Dwellings	..	..	..	32
Two-Bedroom Type Dwellings	..	..	..	117
Three-Bedroom Type Dwellings	..	..	..	178
Four-Bedroom Type Dwellings	..	..	..	10
Prefabricated Bungalows	..	..	..	10

Improvements to Privately Owned Houses

Standard Grants and Discretionary Grants have been made as shown in the following tables, showing a comparison with 1963 and 1964 :

Standard Grants	1963	1964	1965
Applications Received	11	9	10
Applications Approved	7	7	8
Value of Grants Approved	£775.0.0.	£1,750.0.0.	£1,100.0.0.
Value of Grants Paid	£676.3.5.	£ 746.16.0.	£ 930.5.0.

Discretionary Grants	1963	1964	1965
Applications Received	1	1	3
Applications Approved	1	1	3
Value of Grants Approved	£400. 0.0.	£400.0.0.	£1,014.5.4.
Value of Grants Paid	£424.10.0.	£700.0.0.	£ 170.0.0.

Private Enterprise Building

During the year ten new dwellings were completed.

WATER SUPPLY

A copy of the analyst's report of the Public Supply of Water is given below :

Table showing results of Analysis of Water Supply

Source of Sample and Date	Wells U.D.C. Public Supply Well, Black's Lane Pumping Station, 14th December, 1965
Appearance	Clear
Nature of Deposit	Nil
Colour	Nil
Reaction	Neutral
Taste	Satisfactory
Odour	Nil
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.05
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.02
Nitrate Nitrogen	11
Nitrite Nitrogen	Nil
Fluoride	Nil

Bacteriological Results

Number of colonies developing per ml. in 48 hrs @ 37° - nil
Presumptive coliform organisms - Probable Number per 100 ml - nil

Opinion : This water is of good organic quality and its bacteriological condition is excellent. The fluoride content of this water is negligible. In our opinion this water is fit for drinking purposes.

During the year it was necessary to impose a ban on the use of hoses for watering gardens and washing private cars, for the whole of the year. The level of the water at Black's Lane Well showed no appreciable increase and the storage capacity is still 30,000 gallons. The Council's Consultants are proceeding to investigate other sources of supply including, in conjunction with the Consultant Engineers of Walsingham R.D.C., increased abstraction from the Houghton St.Giles Bore.

Plans for the erection of temporary storage of 57,000 gallons were abandoned, and a bulk supply is being taken from Walsingham R.D.C., mainly from the Egmere source.

New connections to mains during the year	24
Number of domestic premises drawing water from mains ..	980
Number of domestic premises not drawing from mains ..	3
Number of domestic premises drawing from stand taps ..	10

SEWAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The sewage works is being operated as previously and is subject to surcharging by the sewage collected from the sewage storage tanks at the Beach Undertaking. The Council's Consultants are continuing to investigate the renewal needs for the sewage works.

Night Soil Collection

During the year five closet conversions were carried out and grants totalling £94.13.6d. were paid.

Within the district there are still ten pail closets capable of conversion to water closets and some of these are subject to Statutory Notices for conversion.

MILK SUPPLY

The milk supplied in this district is processed outside the district and delivered by two delivery organisations, and sold at a number of shops.

The use of non-returnable cartons at the Beach Caravan Site has diminished the problem of mis-use of milk bottles and the injuries caused by broken glass on the Beach.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Description of Premises	Number of Premises	Premises complying with Regulation 16	Premises to which Reg.19 applies	Premises complying with Reg.19
Grocery & Provisions	16	13	16	12
Butchers	4	3	4	4
Fishmongers	4	2	4	4
Bakers	3	3	3	3
Hotel & Cafes	15	8	15	14
Whelkhouses	7	3	7	7

RODENT CONTROL

Rodent control is carried out by the Sewage Works Attendant, and visits and treatments are summarised in the following table.

	Local Authority Premises	Dwellings	Others
Inspections	7	371	9
Treatments	25	203	7

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse is collected in a 7 cu.yd.shuttered vehicle, and a weekly back door collection in skips is maintained throughout the year. During the period when the Caravan Site is in operation there is considerable pressure to maintain this weekly collection and involves considerable overtime working in order to keep the Caravan Site reasonably free of refuse. The refuse tip is an old lime pit in which crude tipping takes place. A number of traders have access to the tip at any time and it, therefore, makes it more difficult to keep the tip reasonably free of rodents. Continuous rodent control is carried out in order to achieve this. The fencing of the site is inadequate and requires attention.

CARAVAN SITE

The Caravan Site was operated as last year. During the year four additional toilet blocks were erected comprising eight W.C. compartments each and a urinal section in each male compartment. Sewage is collected by tanker and discharged to the sewage works.

The water supply to the Beach during the year has been satisfactory but when washing facilities are provided it is possible that the 2" section of the main serving the Beach will have to be replaced with larger sized main. Refuse collection continued with the shuttered vehicle and was generally satisfactory.

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

The following ships entered the port during the year :

Ships from		Arrivals at Wells		Departures Ex.Wells	
		Full	Empty	Full	Empty
Foreign Ports	1963	20	1	14	7
	1964	20	2	14	9
	1965	24	0	3	11
Home Ports	1963	1	19	20	0
	1964	0	9	2	6
	1965	2	5	2	15

The gross tonnage of ships entering the port, 4,046 tons, was slightly above the 1964 figure. On the ships entering the port no serious sanitary defects were noted.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES

The following table shows comparative figures between 1964 and 1965 and one hundred percent meat inspection was carried out of all animals slaughtered in the district. Inspection was generally carried out within the six hours of slaughter, but it is not possible to maintain an inspector on the slaughter premises during the whole period of slaughter, and a great deal of inspection carried out was outside working hours.

Animals Slaughtered

		Bullocks	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Slaughtered	1964	273	14	449	471	1207
	1965	351	18	306	743	1418
Inspected	1964	273	14	449	471	1207
	1965	351	18	306	743	1418

SLAUGHTER HOUSES - Cont'd

Unsound Meat Seized or Surrendered
All diseases except for Tuberculosis.

	Bullocks	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Whole Carcasses Seized	--	--	--	--
Carcasses from which some part was condemned	16	--	4	13
Percentages	4.55	--	1.31	1.73

Tuberculosis Only

	Bullocks	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Whole Carcasses condemned	--	--	--	--
Carcasses from which some part was condemned	--	--	--	1
Percentages	--	--	--	0.134

Cysticercus Bovis

	Bullocks	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Whole Carcasses condemned	--	--	--	--
Carcasses of which some part was condemned	2	--	--	--
Percentages	0.569	--	--	--

Unsound Food

The following were surrendered as unfit for human consumption :

Food	Parts	Weight	Cause of Unfitness
Bovine Livers	12	80 lbs	Abscesses
Shin of Beef	1	14 lbs	Bruising
Bovine Lung	2	8 lbs	Pneumonia/Bruising
Bovine Heart, Lungs, Liver	1	--	Log Fever Syndrome
Bovine Head	1	--	Cysticercus Bovis
Bovine Heart	1	--	Cysticercus Bovis
Pigs Lungs	6	16 lbs	Pleurisy/Pneumonia
Pigs Livers	8	20 lbs	Necrosis
Pigs Heads	2	24 lbs	Abscesses
Pigs Hearts	5	--	Pericarditis
Sundry Offals	7	30 lbs	
<u>Tinned Food</u>			
Cooked Ham		15 lbs	Loss of Vacuum

FACTORIES ACTFactories Acts, 1937 to 1952Annual report for 1965 under Section 12c (3) of
the Factories Act, 1937

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	19	3	--	--
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	--	--	--	--
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out Workers' premises)	17	2	--	--
TOTAL	36	5	--	--

2. Cases in which defects were found :-

1 - Want of Cleanliness

